## SMSgt (Ret.) Rob Rosenberger

**Twitter @rsnbrgr**

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EO 12958: _____ My accession: 12 OCT 23 Initials: RR

Title: GEN. ARNOLD'S MATERIAL, CRITIQUES OF 38 COMMERCIAL FILMS DEALING W/ MILITARY AVIATION

Date(s): 2 JUN 1945

Call: 168.65-30 Volume: 1 OF 2

IRIS: 124454

[X] ALL [ ] Selected Papers [ ] Except

[ ] copyrighted news stories; congressional bios; tabbed & oversized pages

Historical Records
Commercial Films

WCR/ar

2 June 1945

SUBJECT: AAF Historical Films

P.R.C.

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces
Washington 25, D. C.
Attention: Capt. Arthur Orloff, AC/AS, Intelligence,
Motion Picture Services Division

1. Transmitted herewith are reports on 33 films made by commercial motion picture companies, dealing prominently with military aviation.

2. This group of reports includes all films in this category made by Paramount Pictures, Inc., Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, RKO Radio, Universal Pictures Co. Inc., Jerry Fairbanks Scientific Films and others. Supplementary reports covering remaining commercial product available in the Hollywood area will be forwarded in a week.

00124454

3. Work continues in cataloging stock footage in the film libraries of the various commercial companies. Since only one operative (a stenographer trained by M/Sgt. Eyanson in the intricacies of stock film cataloging) is available for the task, this phase of the work will require many weeks. The catalog will be added to M/Sgt. Eyanson's comprehensive library list of stock footage (mainly AAFCCU film) on U. S. military aircraft.

33 Incls:
Repts. for
AAF Historical Films

J. K. McDUFFIE
Colonel, AC
Commanding

file
Capt. Orloff

373-7940-31

ARMY AIR FORCES
18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

TITLE ACE OF ACES — AAF CATEGORY

SPONSOR RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

PRODUCER
RKO RADIO PICTURES INC.
780 N. Gower St.
Hollywood, Calif.

PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM:
RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.
RADIO CITY, N.Y.

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION
COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS

EVALUATION

Owing to film shortage Hollywood studio of RKO has no print of this 12 year old picture (produced 1933) Studio says print is probably available at New York office of RKO Radio Pictures, Radio City, New York.

DATE 25 May 45 REVIEWER Capt. M.C. Root
(445)

Incl. 1

18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | |
|---|---|
| TITLE AERIAL GUNNER | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC. | |
| PRODUCER PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC. (Pine-Thomas)<br>5451 Marathon, Hollywood, Calif. | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM:<br>PRODUCER | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS

Two men, enemies in private life, find themselves in the same training flight at Aerial Gunnery School. They squabble through training and both fall in love with the same girl. They finally end up in the same B-25 Bomber crew in the Pacific. One dies heroically on a raid, leaving girl and glory to the other.

EVALUATION

Fictional phases of story are synthetic, and rule out the completed picture as a possibility for the Historical Series.

Much of the picture was photographed at Harlingen Army Gunnery School, Texas. Excellent film of aerial gunnery training at this school is included. Paramount library has supplementary film photographed for but not used in the picture.

This footage is authentic and distinctly worthwhile for purposes of the Historical Series.

DATE 26 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W. C. Root
(445)

Incl. 2

18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | |
|---|---|
| TITLE | BEYOND THE LINE OF DUTY |
| AAF CATEGORY | |
| SPONSOR | WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC. |
| PRODUCER | WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC.<br>4000 W. Olive Avenue<br>Burbank, California |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC. |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

THEATRICAL RELEASE FOR PUBLIC INCENTIVE

SYNOPSIS

Beyond The Line of Duty is based on actual incident. It concerns Capt. Hewitt Wheless, who enters the Army Air Forces as a cadet in July, 1938. He is trained at Randolph Field, and commissioned a bomber pilot. In January, 1941, following the Jap attack on Pearl Harbor, Capt. Wheless flew one of five B-17s in an attack on Jap ships landing troops on the Philippines. This mission is dramatized with re-enacted scenes and stock shots. Capt. Wheless is decorated for heroism beyond the line of duty.

EVALUATION

Since this short is based on actual fact, it is history. Capt. Wheless plays Capt. Wheless. A portion of the material has been photographed at Randolph Field, and it is to be noted that Gen. H.K.Harman appears in a short speaking part.

DATE 23 May 45

REVIEWER Capt.D.Matthews
(445)

Incl. 3

18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | BOMBARDIER | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC. (At request of (War Dept.) | |
| PRODUCER | RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.<br>780 N. Gower St.<br>Hollywood, California | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | PRODUCER | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | x | 35 color | | 16 B&W | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION
COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE (Also morale stimulant - see below)

SYNOPSIS Plot deals chiefly with pre-war bombardier training. A personal rivalry developes between a Major commanding the bombardier school and an old line pilot, who underrates the importance of pin-point bombing. Young bombardier trainees and their problems figure prominently. A fictionalized but fairly comprehensive picture of pre-war bombardier training is provided. Sub-plot concerns a blonde, and climax (after declaration of war) shows bombing raid over Japan. Story tries hard to be realistic and authentic, but is, in sum, synthetic.

EVALUATION

Film was produced in 1942 and contains highly interesting and well-photographed scenes of bombardier training: shot with full AAF cooperation at Kirtland Field, near Albuquerque, N.M. Scenes of mechanical training aids are particularly good. This footage should be of decided value in historical films to be made on AAF training.

The picture was made at the request of the War Dept. to stimulate interest in and enlistment for bombardier training. Declaration of war changed the enlistment situation, but film was distributed in bombardier schools for morale purposes. A spoken foreword by Brig.Gen.Eugene Eubank (photographed in person) emphasizes the importance of bombardiers and their training in the war effort.

It is the opinion of the Historical Section (18th AAF Base Unit) that the picture as a whole is too tricked up with movie heroics and cliches to be included in the Historical Series. However, since film had a military objective (in addition to its regular commercial release) suggest this opinion be checked by higher authority.

DATE 26 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W.C.Root

Incl. 4

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | CAPTAINS OF THE CLOUDS | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | WARNER BROTHERS PICTURES, INC. | |
| PRODUCER | WARNER BROTHERS PICTURES, INC.<br>4000 W. Olive Avenue<br>Burbank, California | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | WARNER BROTHERS PICTURES, INC. | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | x | 35 color | | 16 B&W | | 16 K |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION
THEATRICAL RELEASE

SYNOPSIS A group of veteran Canadian bush fliers lay aside their civilian flying for service in the RCAF. On the basis of their many years of experience flying the Canadian bush, they expect to see combat immediately, but soon learn the RCAF has other plans. All but two are made to realize that modern air fighting is a young man's game (which they are not) and that their services instructing younger men are invaluable. The conformists accept gracefully and go through the training like any other cadet - the two non-conformists end in grief, leaving the service - one dishonorably discharged. At the very end the dishonored flyer covers himself with glory by crashing into an attacking Messerschmidt to save a squadron of unarmed bombers enroute to England.

EVALUATION

Captains Of The Clouds is dedicated to the RCAF with a Canadian locale throughout. A portion of the material was shot on location at Canadian Training Centers and consequently is authentic. Its use in a history of the AAF is questionable.

DATE 29 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. D. Matthews

Incl. 5

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | THE EAGLE AND THE HAWK | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC. | |
| PRODUCER | PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.<br>5451 Marathon<br>Hollywood, California | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.<br>5451 Marathon<br>Hollywood, California | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | x | 35 color | | 16 B&W | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION
COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS

An American enlists in the Royal Flying Corps (World War 1) During training, a mutual dislike developes between American and another trainee. Latter washes out, but later turns up in France as a photographic observer. Two are assigned to fly as a team. Pilot becomes a great ace, but finally cracks under the strain and commits suicide. Observer, who has come to admire him, covers the disgrace and makes it appear the pilot died a hero.

EVALUATION

Since the service involved is the Royal Flying Corps, the film cannot properly be included in the AAF Historical Series.

Though scenes were re-enacted and made in California, a few shots of the primitive air cameras of World War 1 might be of value in historical film on aerial photography.

DATE 29 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W.C. Root

Incl. 6

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | FLIGHT ANGELS | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC. | |
| PRODUCER | WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC.<br>4000 W. Olive Avenue<br>Burbank, California | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC.<br>4000 W. Olive Ave, Burbank, Calif. | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | | 35 color | | 16 B&W | x | 16 K |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION
COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS

A weak plot built around commercial airlines pilots and their hostess sweethearts.

EVALUATION

Flight Angels has little, if any, bearing on the history of the Air Forces.

DATE 5-28-45

REVIEWER Capt. D. Matthews

Incl. 7

18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | FLYING FORTRESS | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC. | |
| PRODUCER | WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC.<br>4000 W. Olive Ave<br>Burbank, California | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC. | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | x | 35 color | | 16 B&W | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION This feature was produced in England and was distributed in this country by Warner Bros. The preface indicates that it was dedicated to the RAF Atlantic Ferry Service.

SYNOPSIS Jim Spence, American playboy, and "Sky" Kelly, veteran flyer, join the Atlantic Ferry Service. At the time the Ferry Service is engaged in delivering B-17s to the British government. On their 1st visit to London, they witness a German bombing attack. Moved by the wanton destruction heaped on defenseless women & children, Kelly & Spence resolve to return to the states to take a more active part in the war. In Canada they join the RCAF & subsequently return to England where they take part in a bombing mission to Berlin. The mission is accomplished, but not without its dramatic moments. On the return from the target, B-17s are harassed by flak & attacked by German fighters. A piece of flak penetrates the fuselage, fouls the control cables, ship goes into a steep dive & it is only the quick thinking of Spence that saves the ship from crashing. When the #2 engine begins to smoke, it is Spence who again saves the day by accomplishing the impossible feat of crawling out on the wing to stifle the flames. The picture concludes with a montage on the voice of Winston Churchill giving reassurance that British arms and might will triumph.

EVALUATION

The only possible value of this feature lies in the dramatization of an early mission to Berlin. According to an insert which appears in the picture, this mission was to have taken place on 7/12/41. A check was made with the British Information Service, but they have no record of such a mission on that date. However, a mission was made in the following month in which one-half a squadron of B-17s flown by British personnel bombed Berlin. The fact that B-17s were used against Berlin does illustrate the employment of American aircraft very early in the war against Nazi Germany. The mission itself could be used provided a title-preface was added, calling attention to known inaccuracies.

DATE 25 May 45

Capt. D. Matthews
REVIEWER

Incl. 8

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | |
|---|---|
| TITLE | GIVE US WINGS |
| AAF CATEGORY | |
| SPONSOR | UNIVERSAL PICTURES CO. INC. |
| PRODUCER | UNIVERSAL PICTURES, CO. INC.<br>Univer sal Studio<br>Universal City, Calif. |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | UNIVERSAL PICTURES CO. INC. |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | x | 35 color | | 16 B&W | | 16 K |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION
COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS

A saga involving the Dead End Kids. Mechanics in a NYA airplane school, they are lured into working for a crop-dusting enterprise by a ruthless entreprenur, who furnishes elderly plans and inadequate instruction on how to use them in the dangerous work. After the regulation amount of "horse play" and incident, the Dead End Kids land on top.

EVALUATION

Very little of this picture is useful even as stock shots. The opening sequence in which an NYA repair depot is shown in operation might have some value, and if an AAF film should ever need any crop-dusting shots, there is an adequate selection from this picture.

DATE 29 May 45

Prvt. S. Locke
REVIEWER

Incl. 9

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | |
|---|---|
| TITLE | A GUY NAMED JOE — AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS |
| PRODUCER | METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS<br>10202 Washington Blvd.<br>Culver City, California |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | x | 35 color | | 16 B&W | x | 16 K |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION To romanticize aspects of the Army Air Force and accentuate safety measures in flying.

SYNOPSIS A "hot" pilot and squadron leader of B-25 formation in England is transferred to reconnaissance flying. He is killed while bombing a German air craft carrier, fulfilling the presentiments of his sweetheart, a WASP member of the Ferry Command. After death, his soul becomes a member of a heavenly organization of resurrected airmen who help fledgling army fliers, although unseen and unheard by them. The cadet pilot, who our dead hero nurses along to maturity, eventually meets and wins the latter's bereaved sweetheart. The late "hot" pilot, after a short inner struggle, helps unite the two lovers and then leaves them to continue his mission of after-life help to the air men in the sky.

EVALUATION

Although the story is highly charged with sentiment and phantasy, there are a number of unusual stock shots, and even possibly a sequence or two, that may be garnered from it. Among these stock shots are one - A B-25 bombing a German aircraft carrier: two - the training scenes in the flying school in which the spirit of Spencer Tracy instructs cadet pilots in various types of planes: three - a low level attack on a Jap ammunition dump, and others.

DATE 28 May 45 REVIEWER Pvt. S. Locke

Incl. 10

ARMY AIR FORCES
18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

TITLE: I WANTED WINGS

AAF CATEGORY:

SPONSOR: PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.

PRODUCER:
PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.
5451 Marathon
Hollywood, California

PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM:
PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION:

THEATRICAL RELEASE FOR PUBLIC INCENTIVE

SYNOPSIS: Three men, representing a cross-section of young America, enter cadet training at Randolph Field. In the process of training, the shortcomings of each are exposed. Notwithstanding, each is imbued with a single purpose - to win his wings. Of the three, one is commissioned; another is killed as a result of some indiscreet aerial horseplay, and the third man is eliminated from cadet training but re-enlists as a crew member. Despite individual weaknesses, each man makes sacrifices in behalf of the other and at the conclusion, in the course of a courtsmartial proceeding, the story of their individual heroism is told.

EVALUATION:

I Wanted Wings has a well-integrated story line concerned mainly with the training of three cadets at Randolph and Kelly Fields. A good portion of the picture was photographed at Randolph Field, and consequently contains authentic material. Also included is a simulated attack in the Los Angeles area showing the operation of the Interceptor Command. Divested of the "boy meets girl" embellishments, this feature should make a fairly representative document of early cadet training.

DATE 24 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. D. Matthews
(445)

Incl. 11

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | KEEP 'EM FLYING | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | UNIVERSAL PICTURES CO. INC. | |
| PRODUCER | UNIVERSAL PICTURES CO. INC.<br>UNIVERSAL STUDIO<br>UNIVERSAL CITY, CALIF. | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | UNIVERSAL PICTURES CO. INC. | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | 35mm | x | 35 color | | 16 B&W | | 16 K |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION Public Distribution. Purpose - comedy antics plus some promotion of Army Air Force training.

SYNOPSIS

A stunt flyer enlists in the army and goes to primary school at Cal-Aero Academy, Ontario, Calif. With him are two comic friends who are employed as ground mechanics about to be washed out for lack of discipline and carelessness. The stunt flyer re-instates himself by a spectacular mid-air rescue of a pilot whose chute has been caught on the tail end of a transport plane.

EVALUATION

There are many good shots of Cal-Aero Academy in varying phases of primary flying instruction. Chances of cutting it down to a documentary film on primary training are slim. However, there are a few worthwhile shots - i.e. graduation ceremonies at Cal-Aero Academy, and possibly one or two others. It is interesting to note that the C.O. of Cal-Aero served as technical adviser to this picture. He was then Maj. Robt. L. Scott, but is much better known today as Col. Scott, author of "God Is My Co-Pilot".

DATE 31 May 45

Pvt. S. Locke
REVIEWER

Incl. 12

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | LADIES COURAGEOUS | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | UNIVERSAL PICTURES CO. INC. | |
| PRODUCER | UNIVERSAL PICTURES CO. INC.<br>UNIVERSAL STUDIO<br>UNIVERSAL CITY, CALIF. | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | UNIVERSAL PICTURES CO. INC. | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | 35mm | x | 35 color | | 16 B&W | x | 16 K |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION Public Distribution. Purpose - to glorify women Ferry Pilots, emphasizing their importance to the Air Transport Command.

SYNOPSIS

This is a story of a squadron of women Ferry Pilots who are struggling to show the Air Force "higher-ups" how dependable and valuable their work is to the Air Transport Command, and their efforts to be transformed from a civilian to a military outfit. After a series of emotional clashes among the women pilots and a number of mishaps, including a crash landing on an Arizona field, a trainer crack-up, a death in a P-38 crash, the squadron finally realizes it's ambition - namely, a ferrying mission overseas and militarization of the unit.

EVALUATION

There are some excellent shots revolving in and about well-established airfields in this country. A wealth of everything from a flight taxiing up for a take-off to scenes in an Air Transport Command Briefing Room. There are, however, not quite enough sequences to make up a documentary short of women's part in the Air Transport Command unless short pieces of other film applicable to the same subject could be used.

DATE 30 May 45

Pvt. S. Locke
REVIEWER

Incl. 13

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | LEGION OF THE CONDEMNED | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC. | |
| PRODUCER | PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.<br>5451 Marathon<br>Hollywood, Calif. | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.<br>5451 Marathon<br>Hollywood, California | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | x | 35 color | | 16 B&W | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | x | Sound | | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS

An American, disappointed in love by a French girl in New York, joins a daredevil esquadrille of the French Air Force in World War 1. The girl turns up on the battlefield as a French spy. Following melodramatic complications, boy and girl are finally united.

EVALUATION

Picture is silent, made in 1928. Since it deals with the French Air Force, it has no place in Historical Series.

DATE 30 May 45

Capt. W.C.Root
REVIEWER

Incl. 14

ARMY AIR FORCES
18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

TITLE LOST SQUADRON

AAF CATEGORY

SPONSOR RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

PRODUCER
RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.
780 N. Gower Street
Hollywood, California

PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM:
RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.
Radio City, N. Y.

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN: | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION
COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS

EVALUATION
Owing to film shortage Hollywood studio of RKO has no print of this 14 year old picture (produced 1931) Studio says print is probably available at New York office of RKO Radio Pictures, Radio City, N.Y.

DATE 25 May 45

REVIEWER Capt.W.C.Root
(445)

Incl. 15

ARMY AIR FORCES
18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

TITLE PARACHUTE BATTALION

AAF CATEGORY

SPONSOR RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

PRODUCER
RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.
780 N. Gower St.
Hollywood, Calif.

PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM:
PRODUCER

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS

Three men enlist for parachute training at Ft. Benning, Ga. One is a comedy character, the other two become friends and then fall for the same girl. One is a coward but redeems himself by saving the other's life at the climax. Further plot complications, mostly film formulae, are not pertinent to this record.

EVALUATION

Picture was made with co-operation of 501st Parachute Battalion at Ft. Benning, Ga. The fictional story is worthless, but a documentary on parachute training could be edited out of the excellent footage included. The training shown is regular army pre-war. However, subject is probably not suitable for AAF Historical Series, since the Paratroopers in training are all infantry. Thrilling, beautifully photographed jump shots might be used for stock in other films.

DATE 25 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W. C. Root
(445)

Incl. 16

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | POPULAR SCIENCE J 4 - 5 Issue | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC. | |
| PRODUCER | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, California | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, California | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | | Magnacolor 35 color | x | 16 B&W | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE (By Paramount)

SYNOPSIS

B-24 training by 2nd Air Force at Pueblo, Colo. is subject. Various mechanical training aids for bombing, navigation and engineers are shown. Also radio operator training and gunnery training( including moving Monorail Target) Crew is assembled. Ship is gassed and bombs loaded. Shots of flak suits and briefing room. B-24s take-off. Flight shots and bombs away. Ground shots of bomb bursts.

EVALUATION

Coverage is brief (about 400 feet) but generally interesting. Photography good. Narration is not.

Film is recommended (with new narration) only if more comprehensive film on B-24 training is not available.

DATE 30 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W.C.Root

Incl. 17

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | POPULAR SCIENCE J 2 - 5 Issue | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC. | |
| PRODUCER | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, Calif. | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, Calif. | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | | Magnacolor 35 color | x | 16 B&W | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE (By Paramount)

SYNOPSIS

Glider Pilot Training is subject. There are some interesting shots of trainees; and of the winch and other take-off mechanisms. Glider training craft are shown in group take-offs. Regular transport gliders take off behind C-47. Various air shots.

EVALUATION

Film is brief and elementary. Since other film is available on subject, it is not recommended.

DATE 29 May 45

Capt. W. C. Root
REVIEWER

Incl. 18

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | POPULAR SCIENCE J 3 - 2 Issue | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC. | |
| PRODUCER | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 SUNSET BLVD.<br>Hollywood, Calif. | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, Calif. | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | | Magnacolor ~~35 color~~ X | | 16 B&W | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | X | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE (By Paramount)

SYNOPSIS

Troop Carrier Command training is subject, and film deals with both pilots and airborne troops. Various loading shots are shown; jeeps and machinery as well as personnel. Loaded glider take-offs, various air shots include low circling gliders and glider landings. An interesting shot shows glider landing on water, and troops disembarking.

EVALUATION

Film is brief (about 350 feet) and elementary. Nevertheless, the photography is good and the shots interesting.

With new narration subject might serve in Historical Series - only if better film on subject is not available.

Magnacolor prints cost 5¢ per foot. Black and white prints can be made from negative.

DATE 30 May 45

Capt. W.C.Root
REVIEWER

Incl. 19

18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | POPULAR SCIENCE J 1 - 4 Issue | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC. | |
| PRODUCER | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, Calif. | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, Calif. | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | | Magnacolor 35 color | x | 16 B&W | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE (By Paramount)

SYNOPSIS

AAF Photographic Training at Lowry Field, Denver, Colo. is subject. Various shots of training processes and trainees are shown. Shots of photographs being made in air. Photo mosaics and obliques are touched on. Film is shown dropped by parachute and developed in field processing trailer.

EVALUATION

Sketchy coverage and brevity of film (about 300 ft) are against it. Color photography is satisfactory. However, film shows actual shots of men in training, and therefore has historical value. It is recommended (with new narration) only if more thorough coverage is not otherwise available.

Magnacolor prints cost 5¢ per foot. Black & white prints can be made from negative.

DATE 30 May 45

Capt. W.C.Root
REVIEWER

Incl. 20

18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | POPULAR SCIENCE - J 44 ISSUE | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC. | |
| PRODUCER | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, California | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, California | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | | Magnacolor 35 color | x | 16 B&W | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE (By Paramount)

SYNOPSIS

Air-sea rescue is subject of film. B-17 is shown in flight with dead engine. Second engine dies. Radio operator sends distress signal. Plane ditches. Crew boards rubber rafts. Dye dropped on water. Balloon radio antenna is released, and "Gibson Girl" radio operated. Emergency kit is shown, water cans, fishing tackle, etc. Air-sea rescue plane of 3rd Air Force gets distress signal, then spots mirror flashes. Rubber boats send up smoke signal. Rescue cutter arrives and saves crew.

EVALUATION

Subject is only about 400 feet long, but gives fairly good coverage of subject. However, since theme has been much more throughly covered in such films as "Radio Operator" and "Ditch and Live" it is not recommended for Historical Series.

DATE 29 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W. C. Root

Incl. 21

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | |
|---|---|
| TITLE | POPULAR SCIENCE - J 1-3 Issue |
| AAF CATEGORY | |
| SPONSOR | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC. |
| PRODUCER | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, California |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, California |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 35mm | | Magnacolor 35 color | x | 16 B&W | | 16 K | | |
| Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE (By Paramount)

SYNOPSIS

General coverage of training at Randolph Field. Trainees are shown going through medical test, sight, hearing, etc. A variety of flying shots in Primary Trainers. Shots of marching and ground school. Link Trainer shots. Various shots of AT 6s - including formation flying. Shots (made with filter) purporting to be night flying training. Mass shots in air.

EVALUATION

These scenes are a portion of a Popular Science Short and run about 350 feet. Since they are for public release, the scenes are sketchy and narration rather elementary. Photography is good and color (Magnacolor) while inferior to Technicolor, is quite satisfactory.

Brevity and simple, highlight coverage militate against inclusion of subjects in Historical Series. Certainly more complete film of training at Randolph Field is available. Accordingly - not recommended.

DATE 28 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W.C. Root

Incl. 22

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | POPULAR SCIENCE - J - 44 Issue | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | Jerry Fairbanks Scientific Films, Inc. | |
| PRODUCER | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, Calif. | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, Calif. | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | | Magnacolor 35 color | x | 16 B&W | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION
COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE (By Paramount)

SYNOPSIS

Film deals with air chemical spraying and chemical bombs dropped from aircraft. Vapor tanks are charged and fixed to wings. Two P-51s spray white vapor in series of shots - mostly very low level. Clouds rise obscuring background landscape. White phosphorous bombs dropped from B-17. Bombs land, explode and spread. Also shown briefly jelly petroleum bombs & magnesium bombs. Several shots of explosions.

EVALUATION

Subject is very brief and sketchy (about 300 ft.) Treatment is popular and non-technical. Color photography good.

Probability is that subject is covered in far greater detail in other films. In which case subject is not recommended for Historical Series. If more complete film is not available, subject could be properly included. Present narration not recommended - being of the popular, high-pressure type.

The producer reports that Magnacolor prints can be made for 5¢ a foot. Further reports that good black and white prints can be made from the negative.

DATE 28 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W. C. Root

Incl. 23

ARMY AIR FORCES
18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

TITLE REAR GUNNER

AAF CATEGORY

SPONSOR

PRODUCER

WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC.
4000 W. Olive Ave.
Burbank, California

PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM:

WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC.

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN: | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

THEATRICAL RELEASE FOR PUBLIC INCENTIVE.

SYNOPSIS

The hero of the piece is shy, unassuming Bill Williams. His potential as a gunner is revealed when he is invited to shoot skeet. As a result of this talent he is sent to AAF Gunnery School. There we follow him through the various phases of training. Upon graduation he becomes rear gunner on a B-24. In the course of a mission in the South Pacific the Liberator is crippled by a Jap Zero and is forced to make a landing. The Jap pilot keeps up a relentless strafing attack on the grounded B-24 and crew, until Williams saves the day by crawling back into the rear turret and shooting down the Jap Zero. He is decorated for his heroism.

EVALUATION

This short, up to the mission in the So. Pacific, would be of some value to the Air Forces history. Although the training methods have been largely replaced, it does show early phases and methods of training. Since the mission in the Pacific is made up of stock shots and models and the situation itself is fictional, it has little bearing on the history of the Air Forces.

DATE 25- May 45

REVIEWER Capt. D. Matthews

(445)

Incl. 24

18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

TITLE THE SKY'S THE LIMIT — AAF CATEGORY

SPONSOR RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

PRODUCER
RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.
780 N. Gower St.
Hollywood, Calif.

PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM:

PRODUCER

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS

Three members of The Flying Tigers come to the U.S. on a propaganda mission. One of them (Fred Astaire) gets bored with the speeches and banquets, and goes AWOLfrom the mission. He turns up in civilian clothes and meets Joan Leslie. Remainder of plot is strictly a light comedy love story.

EVALUATION

Picture opens with a few flashes of stock film, supposed to be of The Flying Tigers. This stock is ordinary and of no value in Historical Series. Story then switches to the United States and becomes a boy-girl musical romance - with no flying whatever. Historically valueless.

DATE 25 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W. C. Root
(445)

Incl. 25

ARMY AIR FORCES
18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

TITLE TEST PILOT

AAF CATEGORY

SPONSOR

PRODUCER

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS
10202 Washington Blvd.
Culver City, California

PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM:

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS

This is the story of a daredevil pilot whose closest friend is a mechanic. The story revolves mainly around his relationship with his wife and the exhausting tension which is her lot, due to his dangerous profession of testing experimental planes. The mechanic is killed in the crackup of an experimental Flying Fortress, vintage 1937, and our hero forsakes the plane-testing field and becomes an instructor in the Army Air Forces.

EVALUATION

The plot rests too heavily on the well created emotional relationships of the main characters to have any value in whole or in part to the Historical Series of the AAF. However, there are certain interesting short sequences which might be useful as stock. The tests of an early aircooled pursuit which looks like the father of the P-47 is one. Another is shots of the Cleveland Airshow, and also shots of the earliest model Flying Fortress, showing it in flight, out of control, wrecking itself in a crash landing.

DATE 25 May 45

REVIEWER Pvt. S. Locke
(445)

Incl. 26

ARMY AIR FORCES
18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | |
|---|---|
| TITLE | 30 SECONDS OVER TOKYO |
| | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS |
| PRODUCER | METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS<br>10202 Washington Blvd.<br>Culver City, California |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN: | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | | 16 K | |
| Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION Public Distribution. Serves to emphasize the work, the danger, and the importance of the Doolittle raid on Tokyo in 1942.

SYNOPSIS A factual resume of the famous "Shangri-La Attack" by B-25s under the command of the then Lt. Col. Doolittle, the story being taken from Capt. Lawson's book "30 Seconds Over Tokyo". The film begins with the incubation of the mission in Washington and ends with the return of Capt. Lawson to his wife. The story is told, almost entirely, from the viewpoint of the author, Capt. Lawson, and his young wife, and whatever fictional material may have crept into the picture is confined to incidental dialogue and the personal relationships of these people.

EVALUATION

By the simple process of eliminating the love story and a judicious cutting of some of the "horse play" sequences among the men, an excellent account of the now classic Doolittle foray can be made from this picture. This could be a valuable addition to an historical film library of the Army Air Force's part in this war, especially in that slim category devoted to Army Air Force and Navy co-operation.

DATE 28 May 45

REVIEWER Prvt. S. Locke
(445)

Incl. 27

18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TITLE | UNUSUAL OCCUPATIONS L 3 - 2 Issue | | | | AAF CATEGORY | | |
| SPONSOR | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC. | | | | | | |
| PRODUCER | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, California | | | | | | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, California | | | | | | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | 35mm | | Magnacolor 35 color | x | 16 B&W | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION
COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE (By Paramount)

SYNOPSIS

Film depicts training of flight nurses in Air Evacuation Units at Bowman Field, Kentucky. Nurses are shown in various training activities, including crawling through wire under machine gun fire; going through smoke in gas masks. Also tending wounded, loading and checking wounded in aircraft. C-47 in flight. Interior of C-47 showing nurse giving blood plasma to wounded man.

EVALUATION

Film is very brief - about 300 feet - and offers only sketchiest coverage of subject. It is recommended for Historical Series only if more complete film is not available elsewhere. New narration would be required.

Magnacolor photography is good; and can be reprinted at 5¢ per foot. Black and white prints can be made.

DATE 29 May 45 REVIEWER Capt. W. C. Root

Incl. 28

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TITLE | UNUSUAL OCCUPATIONS L 3 - 4 | | | AAF CATEGORY | |
| SPONSOR | JERRY FAIRBANKS | | | | |
| PRODUCER | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, Calif. | | | | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | JERRY FAIRBANKS SCIENTIFIC FILMS, INC.<br>6052 Sunset Blvd.<br>Hollywood, Calif. | | | | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | 35mm | Magnacolor 35 color x | 16 B&W | 16 K | |
| | Silent | Sound x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE (By Paramount)

SYNOPSIS

WASP training at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas, is subject of brief film. Girls are shown marching and in ground school, studying weather; operating Link Trainer, and in Briefing Room. Tower operators (also girls but not WASPS) are shown. Instructor (female) gives WASP tips in plane. Take-offs and flight shots. Girls shown sunbathing. Finally receiving wings.

EVALUATION

Film is brief( about 350 feet) but interesting. Color photography good. With new narration film might properly be included in Historical Series. Recommended only if more comprehensive coverage of subject is not available.

Magnacolor can be reprinted for 5¢ per foot. Black & white prints can be made from negative.

DATE 29 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W. C. Root

Incl. 29

ARMY AIR FORCES
18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

TITLE WEST POINT OF THE AIR

AAF CATEGORY

SPONSOR METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS

PRODUCER METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS
10202 Washington Blvd.
Culver City, Calif.

PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM:
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN: | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35 mm | x | 35 color | x | 16 BW | | 16 K | |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION
Public release. Purpose - to glamourize the airforce and give some idea of AAF training.

SYNOPSIS
This is the story of a master sergeant in the airforce who raises his son to be an army aviator. The boy goes through West Point, then to aviation training at Randolph Field. He has woman trouble, is the accidental case of the crackup of his closest friend, and is then involved in an airplane mishap from which his father rescues him by dropping from another airplane on to his and landing his plane for him in what was then called a "pancake" landing. Another young aviation cadet loses his life during this

EVALUATION
mishap, and the master sergeant's son - his nerve gone - attempts to leave the service. However, he is recalled to a sense ofresponsibility when his father replaces him in a night maneuver and crashes. All ends happily notwithstanding.

EVALUATION

This film could be easily cut down to a 1 or 2 reel description of early training methods at Randolph Field, 1933-35 era. The value, however, would be purely historical, as there is little genuinely technical matter taken up. The most interesting shot in this picture, released in early 1935, is that of a mass parachute jump from training planes, presaging the extensive use of this maneuver 5 years later.

DATE 25 May 45

REVIEWER Prvt.S.Locke

(445)

Incl. 30

ARMY AIR FORCES
18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

TITLE WINGS

AAF CATEGORY

SPONSOR PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.

PRODUCER

PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.
5451 Marathon, Hollywood, Calif.

PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM:

PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN: | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | 16 K | |
| | Silent | x | Sound | | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION

COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS Two friends from an American small town enlist as pilots for World War 1, and go through training. They are shipped to France and fight - the Germans, and each other over an American girl both love. Another American girl, from their home town, turns up in Paris as an ambulance driver. One of the boys gets drunk and she saves him from a fate worse than death with a French girl. The other boy is finally killed in action.

EVALUATION Completed picture (produced in 1927) is too fictional and too dated dramatically to be of any value to Historical Series.

Spectacular dog-fight film is shown, as well as takeoffs, landing and incidential shots around flying field in France. These were re-enacted and photographed in California, but if examined closely for accuracy by qualified expert, might produce worthwhile historical footage.

Brief shots of flying training in World War 1 are shown. Particularly interesting is footage of mechanical training aids, forerunners of the Link Trainer and the elaborate gunnery training devices of World War 11. These would be distinctly valuable in a history of military aviation; but they are far too brief to make a separate short.

DATE 26 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W. C. Root
(445)

Incl. 31

ARMY AIR FORCES
18th BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TITLE | WINNING YOUR WINGS | AAF CATEGORY |
| SPONSOR | WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC. | |
| PRODUCER | WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC.<br>4000 W. Olive Ave<br>Burbank, California | |
| PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM: | Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc. | |

| PRINTS AVAILABLE IN | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 35mm | x | 35 color | | 16 B&W | | 16 K |
| | Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION Distributed through Warner Bros. by the War Activities Committee for the purpose of recruiting American youth of college age into Army Air Forces Officers' Training.

SYNOPSIS

Lt. James Stewart speaks casually to the youth of America enumerating the advantages of joining the Army Air Forces. Presented, are answers to pertinent questions concerning the Army Air Forces and a brief description of training given to cadets.

EVALUATION

This short is simply a selling job directed to men of college age at a time when Air Force personnel, especially pilots, were urgently needed. As such, its historical value is dubious.

DATE 25 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. D. Matthews

Incl 32

ARMY AIR FORCES
18TH BASE UNIT
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

# HISTORICAL EVALUATION OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS

TITLE: YOUNG EAGLES

AAF CATEGORY:

SPONSOR: PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.

PRODUCER: PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.
5451 Marathon
Hollywood, California

PRINTS AVAILABLE FROM:
PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC.
5451 Marathon
Hollywood, California

PRINTS AVAILABLE IN:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 35 mm | x | 35 color | | 16 BW | | 16 K | |
| Silent | | Sound | x | Unassembled ftg. | | | |

ORIGINAL PURPOSE OR DISTRIBUTION:
COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RELEASE

SYNOPSIS: An American flyer (World War 1) shoots down a famous German ace, and takes him prisoner. German is temporarily held at American air base, and becomes friends with the American flyer. G2 sends them to Paris together on leave (the German in disguise) in an attempt to gain secret information from the German. A girl in Paris, whom the American loves, apparently betrays him and effects the German's escape. In the end the girl is revealed as an allied spy - who gains the needed information from the German.

EVALUATION:

A leading idea of this picture is that flyers - Americans or Germans - are gentlemen; fine fellows who can easily become bosom friends on the ground. The fade-out of the picture is the German flyer (after the armistice) giving his benevolent blessing to the American pilot and his girl. It is improbable that the AAF will care to perpetrate this idea in the Historical Series. In any case, the film is chiefly a spy story - with most of the action in Paris; and valueless historically.

Spectacular dog fights and crashes feature the beginning and the end of picture. There is brief footage showing strafing of ground troops by fighter planes. This film was photographed in California. If closely examined for accuracy by qualified expert, it might be used as montage material in historical picture of air aspects of World War 1.

DATE 26 May 45

REVIEWER Capt. W. C. Root
(445)

Incl. 33